

July 14, 2009

10 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Noon – 1 p.m.

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

At-A-Glance

Registration James River Foyer

Opening Session and Lunch James River Ballroom

Concurrent Sessions

Break James River Corridor and Shenandoah Foyer

Concurrent Sessions

July 15, 2009

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.

10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

10:15 a.m.–12 p.m.

12:15 p.m.–1:30 p.m.

1:30 p.m.–1:45 p.m.

1:45 p.m.–3:15 p.m.

3:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Registration and Breakfast James River Foyer

Concurrent Sessions

Break James River Corridor and Shenandoah Foyer

Planning Session/General Session James River Ballroom

Keynote and Lunch James River Ballroom

Break James River Corridor and Shenandoah Foyer

Panel Discussion James River Ballroom

Community Partnerships Booths Shenandoah Parlor D

July 16, 2009

8 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

8:45 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Registration and Breakfast James River Foyer

Concurrent Sessions

Closing Keynote and Lunch James River Ballroom

July 14, 2009**Agenda****10 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.****Registration.....** James River Foyer**Noon – 1 p.m.****Opening Session and Lunch** James River Ballroom**Welcome:***Dr. Thomas M. Brewster*, Virginia Board of Education**Opening Remarks and Introduction of Speaker:***Dr. Patricia I. Wright*, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education**Keynote Speaker:***Dr. Shelley Stewart*, Founder and President, Mattie C. Stewart Foundation

Born in the segregated South in the 1930s, Dr. Shelley Stewart overcame impoverished beginnings and family tragedies to become one of America's most prominent African-American businessmen. He taught himself to read, later citing that his voracious reading appetite laid the foundation for his success. The presentation will demonstrate how the tools created by The Mattie C. Stewart Foundation will help increase the graduation rate in communities across the country. InsideOut will be featured as a tool to help youth and their families understand the likely consequences of choosing to drop out of school. The documentary features prison inmates who turned to crime after dropping out of school and their desire to help others avoid the pitfalls they experienced as a result.

1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**Concurrent Sessions****Moving from Research to Practical Application in Dropout Prevention**

Dropout Prevention provides practical guidance for high school and middle school educators, superintendents, school boards, and state policymakers as they design and implement dropout prevention strategies. The guide, released by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, presents research supporting effective dropout prevention programs, practices, and strategies. During this session, Dr. Bost will discuss six evidence-based recommendations for reducing dropout rates. She will conclude with a framework model to put recommendations into practical use.

Presenter:*Dr. Loujeania Bost*, Director, National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities**Facilitator:***Dr. Deborah Jonas*, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Research & Policy..... York Room

Identifying At-Risk Students and Building a Framework of Effective Interventions

This session will utilize national research along with school and community demographics to identify students at risk for school failure. With the help of a resource guide, the Pyramid of Interventions, participants will create a system to address the needs of the at-risk student. (part one of two sessions)

Presenter:*Dr. Steven W. Edwards*, President and CEO, Edwards Educational Services, Inc.**Facilitator:***Mary Whitley*, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Research & Policy..... Shenandoah Parlor A

July 14, 2009**1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.****Brain Health Across the Lifespan**

There is no greater or more complex system than the human brain. This magical collection of neurons weighing no more than 4 pounds enables all of our thoughts, emotions, and behavior. This session will focus on brain health across the lifespan as an important model for the development of student learning. Participants will learn the basics of the human brain and recent brain research. A five part lifelong and proactive lifestyle, critical to maximizing brain health, will be discussed.

Presenter:

Dr. Paul Nussbaum, Clinical Neuropsychologist/Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh

Facilitator:

Veronica Tate, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Research & Policy..... New River Room

Helping Students Graduate: Strategies and Tools to Prevent School Dropouts

Over one-third of K-12 students never graduate – increasing the likelihood of their imprisonment, single parenthood, poverty and the use of alcohol and drugs. Workshop participants will learn 15 successful, research-based, data-driven strategies developed by the National Dropout Prevention Center that will reduce the number of school dropouts. Using the 15 effective strategies and tools developed as “best practices” by some of America’s outstanding schools and programs, workshop participants will not only learn what to do but how to aid at-risk youth to graduate. (part one of two sessions)

Presenter:

Franklin Schargel, President, Schargel Consulting Group

Facilitator:

Cherry Gardner, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success..... Shenandoah Parlor B

Basic/New Start Program

The Basic/New Start program provides educational opportunities for the non-traditional learner who has not experienced success in a comprehensive setting. This session will focus on the inner workings of the program. Topics covered will include research findings on the alternative learner, and how the Basic/New Start program incorporates research findings into practice.

Presenter:

Beverly Allen-Hardy, Administrator, Basic/New Start Program, Henrico County

Facilitator:

Ann Sheehan, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success..... Anna Room

Practical Strategies for Differentiated Instruction

Differentiated instruction is 80 percent mindset and 20 percent craft and mechanics. This session will present myth-busting, paradigm-shifting experiences that explore what is and is not differentiation as well as the practical teaching mindset that leads to successful differentiation. The session will include specific strategies, provocative perspectives, humor, video, real applications, and innovative practices. (part one of two sessions)

Presenter:

Rick Wormeli, Teacher and Writer

Facilitator:

Carol Sylvester, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success..... Chesterfield Room

July 14, 2009**1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.****All Aboard the "Choice Bus"**

This presentation will introduce participants to the "Choice Bus," a half classroom and half jail cell. The "Choice Bus" will be featured to provide a "hands-on" experience of the potential consequences of choosing to drop out of school. The session will also share other resources available from the Mattie C. Stewart Foundation. The resources include DVDs, print materials, and presentations.

Limited to 28 participants per session. This session is repeated two additional times during the institute.

Presenter:

Phil Christian, Executive Director, Mattie C. Stewart Foundation

Facilitator:

Marianne Moore, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. Bon Air Room

The Parent School Partnership: Strategies that Work!

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) mandates that school divisions create effective parental involvement programs. This session will focus on principles that support parental engagement as well as the identification of strategies that will have the greatest impact. Participants will also learn about barriers and challenges to creating important relationships between schools and parents. (part one of two sessions)

Presenters:

Reginald Smith, Assistant Professor, North Carolina Central University

Jacqueline Winston, Trainer, Durham Technical Community College

Facilitator:

Dr. Lolethia Kibble, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. James River Parlor E

GPS- Guaranteed Parental Involvement Success

Participants will explore an approach to parent involvement that can yield greater success than schools may be experiencing. The session will focus on one aspect in particular that is simple yet often overlooked in planning a home-school connection strategy. Participants will gain valuable perspective and leave with ideas that will bolster their parental involvement significantly.

Presenter:

Angie Miles, Educational Consultant, Home Advantage with Parents as Partners for Youth (H.A.P.P.Y.) Program

Facilitator:

Stacy Freeman, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. James River Parlor F

Gotta Move, Gotta Share: Life in the Active Classroom

This interactive ninety-minute session will provide participants with over a dozen specific strategies to motivate and engage students at any grade level. Model engagement strategies such as pair share, paired verbal fluency, priming, along with other practical ways to get students involved in their own learning will be modeled. Several ways to use music as a process facilitator in the classroom will also be demonstrated. Participants will be given a resource to take back to their classrooms containing practical and fun strategies for creating an active classroom.

Presenter:

Ron Nash, Founder, Ron Nash and Associates

Facilitator:

Gabie Frazier, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. Shenandoah Parlor C

July 14, 2009**2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.****Break.....** James River Corridor and Shenandoah Foyer**2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.****Concurrent Sessions****Moving from Research to Practical Application in Dropout Prevention**

Dropout Prevention provides practical guidance for high school and middle school educators, superintendents, school boards, and state policymakers as they design and implement dropout prevention strategies. The guide, released by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, presents research supporting effective dropout prevention programs, practices, and strategies. During this session, Dr. Bost will discuss six evidence-based recommendations for reducing dropout rates. She will conclude with a framework model to put recommendations into practical use. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Dr. Loujeania Bost, Director, National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities

Facilitator:

Dr. Deborah Jonas

Focus Area: Research & PolicyYork Room

Identifying At-Risk Students and Building a Framework of Effective Interventions

This session will utilize national research along with school and community demographics to identify students at risk of school failure. With the help of a resource guide, the Pyramid of Interventions, participants will create a system to address the needs of the at-risk student. (part two of two sessions)

Presenter:

Dr. Steven W. Edwards, President and CEO, Edwards Educational Services, Inc.

Facilitator:

Dr. Felicia Dyke, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Research & PolicyShenandoah Parlor A

Brain Health Across the Lifespan

There is no greater or more complex system than the human brain. This magical collection of neurons weighing no more than 4 pounds enables all of our thoughts, emotions, and behavior. This session will focus on brain health across the lifespan as an important model for the development of student learning. Participants will learn the basics of the human brain and recent brain research. A five part lifelong and proactive lifestyle, critical to maximizing brain health, will be discussed. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Dr. Paul Nussbaum, Clinical Neuropsychologist/Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh

Facilitator:

Dr. Lolethia Kibble

Focus Area: Research & PolicyNew River Room

Helping Students Graduate: Strategies and Tools to Prevent Schools Dropouts

Over one-third of K-12 students never graduate – increasing the likelihood of their imprisonment, single parenthood, poverty and the use of alcohol and drugs. Workshop participants will learn 15 successful, research-based, data-driven strategies developed by the National Dropout Prevention Center that will reduce the number of school dropouts. Using the 15 effective strategies and tools developed as “best practices” by some of America’s outstanding schools and programs, workshop participants will not only learn what to do

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but how to aid at-risk youth to graduate. (part two of two sessions)

Presenter:

Franklin Schargel, President, Schargel Consulting Group

Facilitator:

Mary Whitley

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success. Shenandoah Parlor B

Basic/New Start Program

The Basic/New Start program provides educational opportunities for the non-traditional learner who has not experienced success in a comprehensive setting. This session will focus on the inner workings of the program. Topics covered will include research findings on the alternative learner, and how the Basic/New Start program incorporates research findings into practice. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Beverly Allen-Hardy, Administrator, Basic/New Start Program, Henrico County

Facilitator:

Duane Sergent, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success. Anna Room

Practical Strategies for Differentiated Instruction

Differentiated instruction is 80 percent mindset and 20 percent craft and mechanics. This session will present myth-busting, paradigm-shifting experiences that explore what is and is not differentiation as well as the practical teaching mindset that leads to successful differentiation. The session will include specific strategies, provocative perspectives, humor, video, real applications, and innovative practices. (part two of two sessions)

Presenter:

Rick Wormeli, Teacher and Writer

Facilitator:

Dr. Cynthia Cave, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success. Chesterfield Room

All Aboard the "Choice Bus"

This presentation will introduce participants to the "Choice Bus," a half classroom and half jail cell. The "Choice Bus" will be featured to provide a "hands-on" experience of the potential consequences of choosing to drop out of school. The session will also share other resources available from the Mattie C. Stewart Foundation. The resources include DVDs, print materials, and presentations. Limited to 28 participants per session. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Phil Christian, Executive Director, Mattie C. Stewart Foundation

Facilitator:

Carol Sylvester

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. Bon Air Room

The Parent School Partnership: Strategies that Work!

This session will explore the role of language and communication in the formation of partnerships between schools and parents. Participants will learn effective approaches to intentionally create a welcoming school environment and ensure that parents are invited to participate and not unintentionally turned away. (part two of two sessions)

Presenter:

Reginald Smith, Assistant Professor, North Carolina Central University

Jacqueline Winston, Trainer, Durham Technical Community College

Facilitator:

Dr. Vivian Stith-Williams, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. James River Parlor E

July 14, 2009**2:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.****GPS- Guaranteed Parental Involvement Success**

Participants will explore an approach to parent involvement that can yield greater success than schools may be experiencing. The session will focus on one aspect in particular that is simple yet often overlooked in planning a home-school connection strategy. Participants will gain valuable perspective and leave with ideas that will bolster their parental involvement significantly. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Angie Miles, Educational Consultant, Home Advantage with Parents as Partners for Youth (H.A.P.P.Y.) Program

Facilitator:

Ann Sheehan

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement.James River Parlor F

Gotta Move, Gotta Share: Life in the Active Classroom

This interactive ninety-minute session will provide participants with over a dozen specific strategies to motivate and engage students at any grade level. Model engagement strategies such as pair share, paired verbal fluency, priming, along with other practical ways to get students involved in their own learning will be modeled. Several ways to use music as a process facilitator in the classroom will also be demonstrated. Participants will be given a resource to take back to their classrooms containing practical and fun strategies for creating an active classroom. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Ron Nash, Founder, Ron Nash and Associates

Facilitator:

Marianne Moore

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement.Shenandoah Parlor C

July 15, 2009**7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

Registration and Breakfast. James River Foyer

8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.**Concurrent Sessions****Policies that Help Increase the Graduation Rate**

This panel will present innovative policy initiatives designed to increase opportunities for graduation. Panel members will share challenges and successes they have experienced regarding divisionwide policies.

Panelists:

Marty Bell, Deputy to the Superintendent, Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville, KY

Dr. Rita Bishop, Superintendent, Roanoke City Public Schools

Dr. Thomas M. Brewster, Assistant Superintendent, Pulaski County Public Schools

Linda Dorr, Director of Career and Technical Education, Henry County Public Schools

Moderator:

Dr. Cynthia Cave

Focus Area: Research & Policy.Shenandoah Parlor C

What Do Successful Leaders of At-Risk Learners Do to Raise Academic Achievement?

Next to high performing teachers, successful leadership is the second most important factor in increasing academic achievement and achieving higher graduation rates. This presentation will feature the reason why 200 high-performing, high-minority, high-poverty urban, rural, and suburban schools were successful. The session is designed for

July 15, 2009**8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.**

potential and serving school leaders, at all grade levels and post-secondary trainers of potential school leaders.

Presenter:

Franklin Schargel, President, Schargel Consulting Group

Facilitator:

Carol Sylvester

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success.....Shenandoah Parlor A

Improving High School Graduation: The Career Technical High School That Works Connection

Educators must understand the economic and global contexts of the world in which they are preparing students and the importance of career-connected education. This session will provide research support and best practices for expanding access for students to career pathways that span secondary and postsecondary studies. Studies indicate improved graduation rates and achievement for students in career pathways. This session will feature the High Schools That Work key practices of higher expectations, integration of academic and career/technical studies using real world contexts, and career development.

Presenter:

Dr. Joanna Kister, Educational Consultant, Southern Regional Education Board

Facilitator:

Anne Rowe, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success.....Shenandoah Parlor B

It's More than Serving Pizza: Motivating Today's Secondary Students

Attitude can change a blob of sand into King Arthur's castle. This workshop provides practical ideas to minimize inhibitors and maximize motivation for students. Participants will learn practical strategies to create compelling lessons that encourage students to think, take risks, and learn. Motivating today's adolescents is challenging, but it can be done.

Presenter:

Rick Wormeli, Teacher and Writer

Facilitator:

Ann Sheehan

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success.....Chesterfield Room

Closing the Achievement Gap: What Are We Learning and What Do We Need to Do?

The International Center for Leadership in Education is involved with several research projects focused on what happens in the schools and classrooms of highly successful high schools. This session will provide an overview of the research results taken from proven and promising schools that have achieved high student achievement for all subgroups despite challenging demographics. In addition, participants will learn about the research that supports the Rigor/Relevance Framework and the importance of moving to application-based instruction as a means of raising student achievement.

Presenter:

Ray McNulty, Senior Vice President, International Center for Leadership in Education

Facilitator:

Dr. Deborah Jonas

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success.....Anna Room

All Aboard the "Choice Bus"

This presentation will introduce participants to the "Choice Bus," a half classroom and half jail cell. The "Choice Bus" will be featured to provide a "hands-on" experience of the potential consequences of choosing to drop out of school. The session will also share other resources

July 15, 2009**8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.**

available from the Mattie C. Stewart Foundation. The resources include DVDs, print materials, and presentations. (repeated session from Day 1). Limited to 28 participants per session. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Phil Christian, Executive Director, Mattie C. Stewart Foundation

Facilitator:

Cherry Gardner

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. Bon Air Room

Service and Project-Based Learning: Creating Real-World Projects in a Standards-Based World

This session will focus on schoolwide service learning and project-based learning programs at Newsome Park Elementary School and Booker T. Washington Middle School in Newport News.

Presenters:

Debbie West, Administrator, Booker T. Washington Magnet Middle School, Newport News City Public Schools

Kelly Kent Johnson, Lead Mathematics Teacher, Newsome Park Elementary School, . . . Newport News City Public Schools

Facilitator:

Marianne Moore

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. James River Parlor E

Making the Connection Between Families and Schools

This session will provide participants with information and strategies to create and sustain effective family-school partnerships that support student learning and achievement. During the session, Dr. Mapp will summarize the research findings and recommendations from the 2002 Southwest Educational Development Laboratory publication, *A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family and Community Connections on Student Learning*, and explore several "best practice" strategies featured in *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships*.

Presenter:

Dr. Karen Mapp, Director, Education Policy and Management Department, Harvard University

Facilitator:

Gabie Frazier

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. James River Parlor F

Gotta Move, Gotta Share: Life in the Active Classroom

This interactive ninety-minute session will provide participants with over a dozen specific strategies to motivate and engage students at any grade level. Model engagement strategies such as pair share, paired verbal fluency, priming, along with other practical ways to get students involved in their own learning will be modeled. Several ways to use music as a process facilitator in the classroom will also be demonstrated. Participants will be given a resource to take back to their classrooms containing practical and fun strategies for creating an active classroom. (repeated session from Day 1)

Presenter:

Ron Nash, Founder, Ron Nash and Associates

Facilitator:

Dr. Lolethia Kibble

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. New River Room

10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break. James River Corridor and Shenandoah Foyer

July 15, 2009**10:15 a.m.–12 p.m.****Planning Session** James River Ballroom**Graduation Data: What Each School Division Should Know**

During this session, participants will have an opportunity to synthesize information gathered during the conference and use that information to plan initiatives within their divisions to increase graduation rates.

Presenter:

Dr. Deborah Jonas, Executive Director of Research & Strategic Planning, Virginia Department of Education

Lead Facilitator:

Roberta Schlicher, Director, Office of Program Administration and Accountability, Virginia Department of Education

Additional Facilitators:

Gabie Frazier

Cherry Gardner

Lolethia Kibble

Duane Sergent

Carol Sylvester

Veronica Tate

Breakout Locations:

Region I – Shenandoah Parlor B

Region II – Chesterfield Room

Region III – James River Parlor F

Region IV – Shenandoah Parlor A

Region V – Anna Room and New River Room

Region VI and VII – Shenandoah Parlor C

Region VIII – James River Parlor E

12:15 p.m.–1:30 p.m.**Keynote and Lunch** James River Ballroom**Building America in the 21st Century: From the School House to the Workplace**

This presentation will highlight the 15 most effective strategies to help reduce the number of students who choose to drop out of schools. The presentation will also include information from several of the Franklin Schargel's books, including Strategies to Help Solve Our School Dropout Problem, Dropout Prevention Tools, Helping Students Graduate, Best Practices to Help At-Risk Learners, and From At-Risk to Academic Excellence: What Successful Leaders Do.

Keynote Speaker:

Franklin Schargel, President, Schargel Consulting Group

Facilitator:

Dr. Mark Allan, Director, Office of Elementary Education, Virginia Department of Education

1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.**Break** James River Corridor and Shenandoah Foyer**1:45 p.m.–3:15 p.m.****Panel Discussion** James River Ballroom**Community Organizations: Essential Partners in Student Success**

This panel discussion will highlight successful partnerships between school divisions and community organizations. The panelists will discuss how they have worked collaboratively to provide resources and services to help students maintain a commitment to educational success.

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Panelists:

Cindy Duncan, Professional Development Teacher, Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Dr. Brenda Hess, Director of Federal Programs, Russell County Public Schools
Mieko Manuel-Timmons, Director, Micah Initiative
Dr. Bill Porch, President, Communities In Schools
Jim Scanlon, Vice President of Operations and Human Resources, Ukrops
Dr. Jennifer Slabaugh, Director, Virginia Mentoring Partnership
Dr. Cathy Sutphin, Associate Director, 4-H Initiative at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Moderator:*Ann Sheehan*

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success, Student & Parent Engagement

3:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Community Partnerships Booths Shenandoah Parlor D

Community partner organizations will be on-site to provide information about potential partnerships and resources for school divisions.

Facilitators:

Brenda Spencer
Duane Sergent
Veronica Tate

July 16, 2009

8 a.m. –8:45 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast James River Foyer

8:45 a.m –10:45 a.m

Concurrent Sessions**Voices of Youth in Chicago Education: Lessons in Success**

This session will utilize data collected by the Consortium on Chicago School Research to present ways that early indicators can be used to design intervention strategies and help schools analyze the structural factors that affect graduation rates. Youth leaders from Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (VOYCE) will lead an interactive workshop on the importance of creating youth-led, community-based public education reform. Through an explanation of VOYCE's participatory action research process and research-based pilot projects, participants will learn the tools they need to nurture and support youth leadership in their schools and divisions.

Presenters:

Elaine Allensworth, Director for Statistical Analysis, Consortium on Chicago School Research
Emma Tai and Youth Team, Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (V.O.Y.C.E.)

Facilitator:*Dr. Deborah Jonas*

Focus Area: Research & Policy Shenandoah Parlor C

A Look at Prevention and Recovery Policies Across the Nation

This session will take a look at national policy reports that examine the perspectives of students, parents, and educators and the policy recommendations that have emerged. By presenting specific case studies of proven strategies and examining the national picture of the drop-out crisis, this session will seek to better understand what communities can do to ensure more students graduate prepared for college, work, and life.

Presenter:*Mary McNaught*, Chief of Staff, Civic Enterprises**Facilitator:***Megan Moore*, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Research & Policy James River Parlor E

July 16, 2009**8:45 a.m –10:45 a.m****Creating Conditions that Promote High Achievement for All Students**

It is important for schools to close achievement gaps while preparing students for the rigors and realities of the 21st century. This presentation will provide a framework, supporting research, and practical examples for a schooling pathway that can accomplish this urgent societal goal. Attention must be placed on optimizing all forms of learning transactions and on discerning and capitalizing on the assets that students and other educational stakeholders bring to the schooling process. Implications for professional development and educational policy will also be discussed.

Presenter:

Dr. A. Wade Boykin, Professor, Psychology Department, Howard University

Facilitator:

Dr. Vivian Stith-Williams

Focus Area: Research & Policy..... James River Parlor F

Basic/New Start Program

The Basic/New Start program provides educational opportunities for the non-traditional learner who has not experienced success in a comprehensive setting. This session will focus on the inner workings of the program. Topics covered will include research findings on the alternative learner, and how the Basic/New Start program incorporates research findings into practice. (repeated session)

Presenter:

Beverly Allen-Hardy, Administrator, Basic/New Start Program, Henrico County

Facilitator:

Cherry Gardner

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success..... Anna Room

Georgia's Graduation Coach Initiative

This session will provide an overview of Georgia's Graduation Coach Initiative. The history and successes of the program as well as the role of the graduation coach in increasing graduation rate, decreasing dropout rate, and supporting school improvement efforts will be discussed.

Presenter:

Dr. Jessica Broome, Administrator, Georgia Department of Education

Facilitator:

Judy Radford, Virginia Department of Education

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success..... Shenandoah Parlor D

Differentiating Instruction to Increase Student Engagement in Learning

"Hooking" students on learning in the early years of school is a necessary precursor to continued academic investment and success. This session will explore how setting the curricular bar high and tailoring instruction to meet students' needs improves both engagement and performance. Practical proven examples will illustrate how at-risk elementary students have been motivated to succeed by high-quality curricula that integrate standards while addressing students' differing readiness, interest, and learning profile needs.

Presenter:

Kristina Doubet, Assistant Professor of Middle and Secondary Education, James Madison University

Facilitator:

Mary Whitley

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success..... Shenandoah Parlor A

July 16, 2009
8:45 a.m –10:45 a.m

Closing the Achievement Gap: What Are We Learning and What Do We Need to Do?

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Presenter:

Ray McNulty, Senior Vice President, International Center for Leadership in Education

Facilitator:

Marianne Moore

Focus Area: Academic & Social Success. Bon Air Room

Service and Project-Based Learning: Creating Real-World Projects in a Standards-Based World

This session will focus on schoolwide service learning and project-based learning programs at Newsome Park Elementary School and Booker T. Washington Middle School in Newport News. (repeated session from Day 2)

Presenter:

Debbie West, Administrator, Booker T. Washington Magnet Middle School, Newport News City Public Schools

Kelly Kent Johnson, Lead Mathematics Teacher, Newsome Park Elementary School, Newport News City Public Schools

Facilitator:

Carol Sylvester

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. New River Room

Meeting in the Middle: Defining the Parent Role in the Middle School

This session will present research-based approaches to making academic achievement and preparation for high school central to the work of middle schools. Participants will consider the purposes and goals of middle schools in the current educational environment and discuss what those purposes and goals mean for the parent role. Participants will learn about the development of a predisposition for postsecondary study or training as a major goal of middle school-parent partnerships.

Presenter:

Dr. Adriane Williams, Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership Studies, West Virginia University

Facilitator:

Ann Sheehan

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. Shenandoah Parlor B

Teaching that Reaches: How to Plan for the Students Who Need You the Most

This session will explore what it means to "cause learning" by discussing the kind of teaching that works best for students who struggle most. Participants will learn how to design instruction that meets the needs of the least able learners while still providing support for the most skillful learners.

Presenter:

Raymond C. Jones, Instructor, University of Virginia

Facilitator:

Dr. Lolethia Kibble

Focus Area: Student & Parent Engagement. Chesterfield Room

July 16, 2009**11 a.m.–1 p.m.****Closing Keynote and Lunch..... James River Ballroom****Introduction of Speaker and Closing Remarks:*****Roberta Schlicher*****Keynote Speaker*****Bill Milliken***, Founder and Vice President, Communities in Schools

Bill Milliken is one of the most successful and respected youth advocates in the United States. He was honored with two major national awards in 2000, the 40th anniversary of his commitment to kids. As winner of the American Association of School Administrators' "Champion for Children" award, he was lauded by the association as "a guiding force – who has opened the doors to success and growth to countless youngsters." And when the Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership gave Milliken its Edward A. Smith Award for Excellence, the center hailed him for providing "the highest level of service to communities." Milliken serves on the board of Leadership Foundations of America. He is the author of three books, including *The Last Dropout: Stop the Epidemic*.